**HPH**

**Public Health**

**HPH 500: Contemporary Issues in Public Health**

This course provides an introduction to the field of public health that aims to develop an appreciation of the unique and important mission of public health; an understanding of the history, values, ethics, mission, and goals of public health; and knowledge about how public health functions today including the organization, financing, policies, and practices of public health. Students will be expected to think critically about whether public health has achieved its mission in today's world and how the profession might develop in the future. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent.

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

**HPH 507: Biostatistics II**

This is part 2 of a 2-term course and is intended to provide students and researchers in public health with an introduction to the principles of public health informatics and statistical methods and their application in biomedical and public health research. The course will provide necessary knowledge and skills to perform various data management tasks to create and manage data sets using SAS. Students are expected to enroll in parts 1 and 2 sequentially within the same academic year. This course will also introduce summarizing and exploring data, probability theory, discrete and continuous probability distributions, populations and samples, sampling distributions and statistical inference, hypothesis testing, one-sample and two-sample. Prerequisites: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent.

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

**HPH 508: Health Care Systems**

This course introduces students to the system that we have developed to deliver health care in the United States, with international comparisons. The topics include the organization and financing of health care systems, access to health care including health insurance, regulation and policy issues, and the health care workforce. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent.

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

**HPH 509: Independent Study**

Intensive reading, under supervision of one or more instructors, of material not covered in the formal curriculum, or execution of a research project under the supervision of one or more faculty members. Permission of MPH Academic Coordinator is required. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent.

0–6 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

May be repeated 5 times FOR credit.

**HPH 521: Introduction to Clinical Research**

This introductory seminar series provides a broad-based overview of clinical science research methods, as well as guidance for critically reviewing the peer-reviewed literature. Class lectures, exercises, and interactive small group sessions will cover framing a research question, formulating a research hypothesis, critically appraising the literature, exploring study design options, conducting research ethically and responsibly, selecting clinical outcomes, and evaluating analytical alternatives. Students enrolled in the Master of Public Health degree program can...
not use this course (earn credit) to their degree requirements.
1 credit, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated 3 times FOR credit.

HPH 523: Social and Behavioral Determinants of Health
This course introduces students to population health as one of the organizing concepts in public health and the orientation that differentiates public health from medicine. Consistent with public health tradition, health is discussed from an ecological perspective, and the course presents current knowledge about the multiple determinants of population health including socioeconomic status, the physical environment, medical care, individual behavior, and genetics and the interaction of these factors. Also covered is the measurement of population health, sources of data and methods for assessing population health improvements. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 525: Evaluating Programs and Policies to Improve Health
This course introduces students to health policy analysis and public health program evaluation, two distinct fields that share similar tools, albeit with different goals in mind and approaches to meet these goals. Specifically, this course (1) draws on economics, epidemiology, political science, and biostatistics to prepare students to conduct holistic analyses of health policy issues; (2) prepares students to plan a program evaluation; and (3) prepares students to evaluate public policy options. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 527: Health Economics and Policy
This course will provide students with a comprehensive view of the reasons behind the rapid rise in medical expenditures in the United States over nearly four decades, and the measures that have been proposed to address this problem. This course will cover the following topics: the demand and supply of medical care; the dynamics of competition in the health care industry; the role of government in medical care; general understanding of health care institutions, including Medicare, Medicaid, managed care, hospital and physician behavior, and pharmaceutical markets; and health care reform. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 529: Fundamentals of Healthcare Management
This course provides students with an overview of concepts and issues related to healthcare leadership. Through the examination of management topics and healthcare situations, the student will explore the skills and knowledge needed to be successful in a diverse healthcare environment. Topics include healthcare leadership, organizational design as it relates to the uniqueness of healthcare organizations, managing professionals, and supervisory to mid-level management. It is designed for the Health Policy and Management concentration but is open to all MPH students. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent; HPH 508
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 534: Spatial Analysis: Health Applications
This course is an intermediate level graduate course in the application of spatial methods for analyzing environmental exposure and disease data. Students with backgrounds in epidemiology, public health, environmental health, biostatistics, community health, biology, sociology, psychology, marine and atmospheric sciences, geosciences, demography, and geography are particularly encouraged to participate. Although the course will focus on examples related to human health, graduate students in other disciplines will find the course useful for specific and appropriately defined research purposes. Techniques for spatially analyzing point patterns and aggregated data in polygons will be introduced, including autocorrelation, clustering analysis, geostatistical smoothing, and approaches for spatial regression. Consideration of space-time variability will also be covered. This course includes theoretical elements so that the student will learn to appreciate strengths and weaknesses of different spatial approaches. Prior course in GIS or equivalent, as determined by consent from the instructor required. Students need a foundational knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software. This requirement can be met by completing GSS 313: GIS Design and Application I (if available), by completing other Introduction to GIS courses at Stony Brook or elsewhere, or by self-teaching using the following book: Getting to Know ArcGIS Desktop by Tim Ormsby, Eileen Napoleon, and Robert Burke. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 542: Introduction to Global Health
This course will provide an introduction to the field of global health and challenge students to think about how a global perspective could enhance their future practice. The course is designed for MD and MPH students, and is open to students from related graduate programs with instructor permission. This course will explore core concepts in global health, including its definition and origin; how to measure the global burden of disease; recent progress and current challenges; social inequalities in health; health systems; and global stakeholders. It will also apply such concepts to major global health topics, with lectures focused on such areas as HIV/AIDS, child health and immunization, chronic disease epidemiology and sexual violence.
2 credits, S/F graded

HPH 549: Public Health Law
This course is a survey of legal and policy issues that have special relevance for public health professionals. Topics may vary, but typically will include many of the following: structure of the U.S. legal system; power of state governments in matters affecting health care; governmental power and the right to privacy; constitutional issues in social welfare benefits; governmental regulation of health care providers and payers; the scope and discretion of administrative agencies in health care; the antitrust laws; the fraud and abuse laws; and negligence in the delivery and financing of health care. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program.
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 550: Theories of Health Behavior and Communication
In this survey theory course, students learn about the major health behavior and health communication theories that are used in population health research and practice. Rather than simply cataloguing each theory in turn, this course takes a constant, comparative, approach to the learning of theories, in which theories are dissected to their core elements and compared to each other in order to understand the points of convergence and divergence among them. The goal in taking this comparative approach is application: by knowing the core elements of various theories, students will more easily be able to choose appropriate theories to explain population health problems of interest and consider the design of interventions that are appropriate to achieve improvements in the educational, behavioral and environmental factors that may contribute to the problem. In addition to covering traditional individual-level behavior change and health communication theories,
In this course, students learn about the logic, theory, and methods of qualitative research. This course will provide students with an in-depth review of principles of public health research methods. Emphasis will be placed on conceptualization of research questions, evaluation of research design, sample size, and issues related to potential threats to validity within a public/applied setting. Additionally, students will become familiar with how to evaluate methods used in published literature and to design their own research projects. Course topics will include how to obtain secondary data, sample size calculation, risk adjustment, bias, confounding, and interaction. The instructor will work with students as they develop their own analytic project proposals. Students will be expected to implement their proposed research in HPH 560 Advanced Biostatistics in the following semester. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 564: Qualitative Methods

In this course, students learn about the logic, theory, and methods of qualitative research...
within population health and related fields (e.g., social welfare, nursing, medicine, sociology, and psychology). The course begins with an introduction to the epistemological and ontological underpinnings of qualitative inquiry, with special attention to how these factors affect the types of research questions often asked (and answered) by qualitative researchers. Students then learn the nuts-and-bolts of qualitative research design and data collection through review of existing qualitative studies and hands-on application. Homework and in-class exercises over the course of the semester give students practice in (a) designing a feasible qualitative research study, and (b) collecting three kinds of qualitative data: participant observation, in-depth interviews, and focus groups. The course concludes with an overview of steps for data analysis, including coding, memo-writing, and triangulation. Emphasized throughout the course are methodological issues germane to qualitative (and quantitative) research: reflexivity of the researcher, appropriate treatment of human subjects, and obtaining quality data. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 566: Clinical Trials
This course introduces the design, conduct, and analysis of clinical trials. Topics will include types of clinical trials, study design, treatment allocation, randomization and stratification, quality control, sample size requirements, patient consent, and interpretation of results.

2 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 575: Public Health Internship
This course is an applied internship in a public, not-for-profit, or private sector organization that provides a public health service. Students will gain practical public health skills though a semester long internship. The student will work in the organization and prepares a weekly journal of activities, as well as a paper at the conclusion of the course, applying program knowledge to the internship activities. Graduate Graded and may be repeated for credit. MPH Academic Coordinator consent required. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program and Department Consent

0-12 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

HPH 580: Practicum
The Practicum is a planned experience in a supervised and evaluated public health-related practice setting. A journal of fieldwork and a project, with a written report, are required. Students will be expected to demonstrate their "capacity to organize, analyze, interpret and communicate knowledge in an applied manner." Health departments, as well as a variety of other local organizations, offer a wide array of potential sites for the Practicum experience. Permission of MPH Academic Coordinator is required. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program and Department Consent

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 581: Capstone
This course will assist students in synthesizing basic public health knowledge through completion of several competency-driven learning experiences. Most core and concentration course work must be completed before the student can participate in Capstone. Students will be introduced to the process of writing grant proposals and developing budgets, professional networking with non-academic community partners, publishing in the scientific literature; communicating practice-based projects in both oral and poster presentation formats, and planning for their future careers as public health professionals. They will self-assess their own conflict styles and apply negotiation and mediation skills to address community and/or organizational challenges, and reflect on their conflict styles when considering case studies. Students will also engage in inter-professional education learning activities to improve their understanding and communication of their roles, values/ethics, and how to work effectively as part of an inter-professional team. Students will apply systems thinking to a case study to create a logic model that demonstrates the complex systems involved in a population health issue. Lastly, they will present their own work as part of their Practicum to fellow students, and discuss career plans. Permission of MPH Academic Coordinator is required. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program and Department Consent

3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 585: Introduction to Biostatistics & Epidemiology
This course is an introduction to the principles of statistical methods and epidemiology and their application in the health sciences. The student will develop a basic understanding of statistics, epidemiology, and interpretation of research studies in order to communicate risk and scientific evidence to colleagues and the public, directly or through the press. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program or Department Consent

4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

HPH 599: Maintenance of Matriculation
This course is for students who are maintaining matriculation while engaging in consultation with faculty regarding completion of courses and/or master's project. Students will be graded S/F. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Public Health Program and Department Consent

0-3 credits, S/F graded
May be repeated for credit.